

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action dated July 28, 2005 and the telephone interview with the Examiner on September 23, 2005. Applicants thank the examiner for taking the time to conduct the telephone interview.

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-13 are under consideration in this application. Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 10-11 and 13 are being amended, as set forth above, in order to more particularly define and distinctly claim Applicants' invention.

Additional Amendments

The specification and claims are being amended to correct formal errors and/or to better disclose or describe the features of the present invention as claimed. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

Formality Rejection

The Title of the Invention was objected to as being non-descriptive and the Examiner has requested a new title to be submitted. The drawings, the abstract and the disclosure were objected to due to non-idiomatic English, and the Examiner has requested a substitute specification. Claims 1-13 under were rejected 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

The Examiner indicated that certain terms recited in the claims were not explicitly defined in the specification. During the telephone interview, the examiner pointed out that the term "portion" in the specification is not specific enough to convey the physical embodiments of the relevant components to one skilled in the art. For example, the "circuit board setting portion" may be revised into "a circuit board mounting assembly", the "channel/disk control portion" may be revised into "a channel/disk adapter", etc. Applicants respectfully contend

that these terms would be understood by one skilled in art by reviewing the specification as a whole. According to MPEP 2111.01, Applicants may be their own lexicographers.

***>An applicant is entitled to be his or her own lexicographer and may rebut the presumption that claim terms are to be given their ordinary and customary meaning by clearly setting forth a definition of the term that is different from its ordinary and customary meaning(s). See In re Paulsen, 30 F.3d 1475, 1480, 31 USPQ2d 1671, 1674 (Fed. Cir. 1994) (inventor may define specific terms used to describe invention, but must do so "with reasonable clarity, deliberateness, and precision" and, if done, must "'set out his uncommon definition in some manner within the patent disclosure' so as to give one of ordinary skill in the art notice of the change" in meaning) (quoting Intellicall, Inc. v. Phonometrics, Inc., 952 F.2d 1384, 1387-88, 21 USPQ2d 1383, 1386 (Fed. Cir. 1992)). Where an explicit definition is provided by the applicant for a term, that definition will control interpretation of the term as it is used in the claim. Toro Co. v. White Consolidated Industries Inc., 199 F.3d 1295, 1301, 53 USPQ2d 1065, 1069 (Fed. Cir. 1999) (meaning of words used in a claim is not construed in a "lexicographic vacuum, but in the context of the specification and drawings"). Any< special meaning assigned to a term "must be sufficiently clear in the specification that any departure from common usage would be so understood by a person of experience in the field of the invention." Multiform Desiccants Inc. v. Medzam Ltd., 133 F.3d 1473, 1477, 45 USPQ2d 1429, 1432 (Fed. Cir. 1998). See also Process Control Corp. v. HydReclaim Corp., 190 F.3d 1350, 1357, 52 USPQ2d 1029, 1033 (Fed. Cir. 1999) and MPEP § 2173.05(a). MPEP 2111.01*

However, to accelerate the prosecution of the case, the specification and claims are being amended to specifically define the terms as follows. In particular, the channel portion 110 is defined on page 8, 2nd full paragraph; the control terminal 160 is defined on page 13, 1st paragraph; the internal connection portion 150 is defined on page 9, lines 8-10; the disk control portion 140 is defined on page 10, line 27 to page 11, line 5; the port 163 is defined on page 15, lines 7-13; the interface portion 111 is defined on page 18, lines 11-18; the memory control portion 700, the command/address analysis portion 710 and the memory-side selector circuit 730 are defined on page 26, last paragraph; the path-side selector circuit 720 is defined on page 27, last paragraph; the erasing-start address register 752 and the erasing-end address register 753 are defined on page 29, last paragraph; and acronyms LIDT and VIN (Figs. 14-15) is defined on page 40.

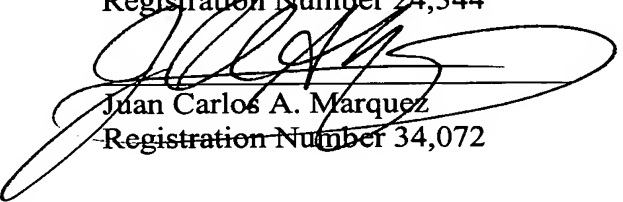
In view of the specification and claims being amended as required by the Examiner, the withdrawal of the outstanding informality rejections is in order, and is therefore respectfully solicited.

Conclusion

In view of all the above, substantive consideration of this application as amended is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the address and telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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